

## A. Forest Conservancy.

A glance at the Coorg Forests and their general Flora, as stated in page 16 ff., will show, that the formation of a Forest Conservancy Department in 1864 was an absolute necessity, and it is only to be regretted, that it was not five years earlier in operation, before some of the finest forests fell under the Planters' axe. There is, however, still scope enough for the energy and talents of a well trained Forest Officer in Coorg, and the more a scientific system of working the reserved forests is introduced such as was originated by Dr. Brandis and carried out in Burmah and other parts of India, especially in the Madras Presidency under the able direction of Dr. Cleghorn and Major Beddome, the better will be the prospects of an ever increasing revenue from this department, which seems not yet to be in a very flourishing condition. Being left without rules fixed by law, the Forest Officer cannot act with that authority which is due to his position and necessary to the interests of Government.

Of the trees reserved by Government, Sandal and Teak are its monopoly, the Kuve or Poonspar is sold at the rate of Ra. 20 per tree, Blackwood and Anjili are sold at Ra. 10 and Ebony, Hone and Irupu at Ra. 6 per tree. All other timbers, bamboos and firewood are allowed free to the ryot paying land revenue to Government and also to all Government servants in Coorg whose pay does not exceed 10 Ra. per mensem, without written permission or any prohibition whatever, except that only mature trees must be cut and that the timber must be used solely for bona fide agricultural and building purposes and not for sale. For the same kind of trees which are free of charge to the ryots, traders have to pay from Ra. 3 to Ra. 4—8 per tree and Ra. 6 per 1000 bamboos, whilst non-ryot residents, if for their own use, pay only half price.

<sup>1</sup>[Errata: This should read "of India" see Corrigenda, Cat. 116, p. 494—Analyst]

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655 The Assistant Conservator in charge of the department  
 654 is under the general control of the Superintendent of Coorg  
 185 and in fact his Revenue Forest Officer, but departmentally he  
 is a third Assistant to the Conservator of Forests in Mysore.  
 His functions hitherto have been the inspection of and report  
 on those forests which were applied for by coffee planters,  
 the inspection and working of reserved forests, the cultivation  
 of tree-nurseries and the superintendence of the collection  
 and sale of sandalwood and forest produce, the latter com-  
 prising resin, pepper, tamarind, soapnut, gallnut, bees' wax  
 and areca nut. The forest receipts in 1869-70 amounted to  
 Rs. 92,668—1—6 and are thus accounted for:

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|                             |                   |
|-----------------------------|-------------------|
| 1. Timber . . . . .         | Ra. 13,645—15—11. |
| 2. Sandalwood . . . . .     | " 45,027—14—3.    |
| 3. Forest produce . . . . . | " 1,198—1—2.      |
| 4. Cardamoms . . . . .      | " 32,796—2—2.     |
|                             | <hr/>             |
|                             | 92,668—1—6.       |

c. *Revenue Survey.*

654 In the time of Lingaraja, from October 1815 to October  
 648 1817, a topographical survey of Coorg, which then also  
 comprised the two taluqs Puttār and Sulya, was completed  
 by Lieut. Connor at the request of the Rājah. To judge from  
 the "Memoir of the Codugu Survey," written by him, and his  
 beautifully executed map on a scale of one mile to an inch,<sup>2</sup>  
 Lieut. Connor's task, accomplished in so short a time, is a  
 giant's work and a lasting memorial of his energy and high  
 professional skill. On an area of 2,165 square miles, then far  
 more densely wooded than at the present time, he made no  
 less than 118 triangulations, ascertained and measured 732  
 boundary stations and took the bearing and distance of 454  
 villages from fixed trigonometrical points; and on his map,  
 every plot of cultivated land was carefully laid down.

<sup>2</sup> [Errata: This should read "one inch to a  
 mile". See corrigenda, Cat. 116, p. 474—AmHst]

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Coorg AW5

[For information on tenancy reform legislation in Coorg see  
39: Patel, AW1 India, category 116, p. 350.]